

Committee Notes – Joint Meeting
Security Committee- Hollywood Entertainment District, Sunset and Vine BID
November 8, 2012

Attendance: HED Committee Members Present: John Tronson, Chairperson; Dan Chismire. Not Present: Carol Massie, Don Mushin, and Thaddeus Smith. SVBID Committee Members Present: Fabio Conti, Elizabeth McDonald, and Anthony Bell. Not Present: Fred Rosenthal, Chairperson; John Lupo, and Roxanna Sassanian. Liaisons: Joe Salazar, Mike Harkins, and Bill Farrar Andrews International; Captain Beatrice Girmala, Officer Danny Pesqueira, LAPD; Not Present, LASD; Not Present, Council District 13. Staff: Kerry Morrison, Joe Mariani Jr., Hollywood Property Owners Alliance. Guests: Pat Olmstead, Tim Wood, LA Film School; Howard Ferguson, Hollywood Frontier.

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair John Tronson at 9:38 a.m.
- II. Public Comment: Tim Wood, Security Director for the LA Film School's sister school in Orlando, Florida introduced himself to the committee.
- III. Meeting Notes: The Committee approved the Meeting Notes from their September 13, 2012 meeting.
- IV. Reports

A. Report from Andrews International

1. Monthly Activity Report: Steve Seyler reviewed with the committee the officers activity for the past month and a half. Seyler informed the committee that BID patrol is continuing to make a conscious effort to connect the chronically homeless in Hollywood with various service providers. This past month Seyler and his counterparts attended approximately 20 meetings, with Homeless outreach teams, the LAPD, and others for a variety of community issues. Seyler also mentioned that radio calls into the BID office have continued their upward progress, and if they continue their current trend the Security Team will receive their highest call volume in the past six years. The officers have made over 1,100 arrests year to date, in the two BIDs.

B. Report from LAPD: Captain Girmala reported to the committee that crime stats in Hollywood are continuing to move in the right direction. Over the last period aggravated assaults in the area have decreased by 27%. In response to the shooting that took place on October 31, Captain Girmala said that the incident was gang related. LAPD is making great progress in investigating the incident, and aside from that occurrence, the Captain said the area had a successful night with the exception of one nightclub whose patrons did get rowdy with officers later in the night. The LAPD said that they estimated around 120,000 people were in the area. Captain Girmala also urged the committee to have a discussion with the nightclubs in the areas as many seem to be attracting problem crowds and individuals to the Hollywood area.

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Lastly, Officer Pesqueira reported that the department's "Lock it, Hide it, Keep it" campaign has been instrumental in helping lower the number of burglary theft from motor vehicles in the area. The next Comstat meeting will take place on November 28.

C. Report from LA Sheriff's Department: Not present.

VI. New Business

A. Discussion Regarding Possible Nighttime Deployment Hours

1. Update on LAPD Late Night Camera Monitoring Experiment: Joe Mariani briefed the committee that he and Morrison had met with Seyler to begin planning the 13 week camera monitoring experiment. After their discussion, it became apparent that the best use of the BID's manpower would be to have one office in the camera room for a six hour shift (10 p.m. – 4 a.m.). Seyler and Mariani are in the process of scheduling a meeting with LAPD Sergeant McDonald and Detective Becker to work out the logistics as to how exactly an officer would report incidents, and how the LAPD plans on measuring the success of the experiment.

2. Rapid Deployment Camera and General Camera Update: Mariani said that Metro Video has contacted two companies to try and obtain the potential cost of purchasing a MESH network. The network would allow the LAPD to set up a rapid deployment camera anywhere within its boundaries. Also, Mariani is going to contact the building owner at Whitley and Hollywood to see if the rooftop is secure enough for the BID to replace the security camera which had previously been there. Tronson said he knew the owner and would try and give them a call.

B. Security RFP 2012

1. RFP Process Update: After reviewing the nine proposals that were submitted, the Selection Committee decided to interview four finalists on November 1st. Tronson described the process as very difficult, as he felt the four finalists were all fairly qualified to patrol the BID. However, after discussing the interviews and the proposals the Committee has decided to begin negotiations with Andrews International to continue providing Security services in the two BIDs.

2. BID Deployment Discussion: Morrison shared with the committee that after going through the RFP process for the security contract, the Committee's eyes had been opened to alternative deployment options – including the potential use of unarmed ambassadors in the area. Morrison said with the call volume for BID patrol being so high, it has limited officers' ability to patrol the district by foot. The original intent of BID patrol was to patrol the common areas and handle trespassing issues in these areas. Morrison opened up the topic for committee discussion. John Tronson suggested Andrews give a report of the typical calls they're responding to in order for the committee to ensure that the patrol continues to respond to calls pertaining to solicitation, loitering, and refusing to leave. The hope of the committee is by possibly limiting call volume, and not responding to issues outside of the BID's scope of work, officers would be able to more frequently walk the area in their extra time. Seyler will be working on a report of what typical calls the office was receiving for the Committee to review. Tronson also suggested meeting with those businesses that called excessively. If these businesses could not better secure their locations on their own, one option may be to have an additional service charge in order for them to have supplementary security coverage, if they cannot provide their own. Captain Girmala acknowledged that all the arrests Andrews had made were viable and well documented, however the LAPD could also respond to certain calls as well.

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V. Old Business

A. Homeless Outreach Update:

a. Injunction Impacting Skid Row Sidewalks: Morrison informed the committee that the City Attorney's office is filing an appeal of the Ninth Circuit Court's ruling. She would continue to keep the committee informed as more information is available.

b. LAHSA 2013 Homeless Count: Mariani informed the Committee that the bi-annual LAHSA homeless count will be taking place on Thursday, January 31, 2013. Volunteers are needed and the committee was encouraged to attend.

B. Community Impact Team

a. Sidewalk Issues: Morrison said she had attended a meeting with tour operators, LADOT, and the City Council to discuss the final Tour Bus Regulation Report for the Council Office's review. All the companies were very supportive of the report and its recommended suggestions. Some of the suggestions included no tour bus parking on the Boulevard unless the company had a master lease with a property owner. The Company would then have to pay the City the fee for installing signage for the parking space and the lost potential revenue. The report also suggested creating a staging area on Hawthorne for Charter busses.

C. Valet Parking Ordinance: Morrison said that the Public Safety Committee would be hearing the Valet Ordinance on Friday, November 16. Mariani will be in attendance to represent the BID.

VII. Next Meeting: The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, December 13, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. in Suite 802 of the Taft Building (1680 Vine St., Los Angeles, CA. 90028).

VIII. Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Committee Chair John Tronson at 11:00 a.m.